M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages ________

(2) Date of repair ________

(3) Initials of the Referencer ________

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 510, 511, 512 & 518	2073	Press / Mis.
Dated	30-8-1872	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department
30th August 1872.

Read the following papers :—

No. 510. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th July 1872.

From the Acting Collector of North Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Palmanair, 12th July 1872, No. 302.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of the Board, that since my application* for a special allotment of funds for the immediate repair of damages caused to irrigation works in this district by the late storm, emergent estimates to the extent of Rupees 28,500 were received for the repair of breaches, etc., in tank bunds. These estimates were duly passed and returned to the Superintending Engineer in anticipation of the Government sanctioning the grant of funds already applied for and recommended by the Board.

* Dated 3rd June, No. 230.

Further estimates for emergent repairs to irrigation works are being almost daily received, and I have at this moment before me forty such estimates to the value of Rupees 8,400, but they are not a quarter of what I am aware I shall shortly receive.

2. About Rupees 44,934 of Government revenue is dependant upon the irrigation works damaged by the late storm. The cultivation season is now close at hand, in fact has commenced in some localities, and as further delay in the execution of repairs cannot fail to tell heavily upon the results of the current year, I venture earnestly to solicit early orders upon my application for a special grant. The importance of the subject, the magnitude of the interests at stake, and the urgency of the occasion cannot be over-rated, and they are my excuses for thus troubling the Board again to move the Government to pass early and favourable orders upon my application, and which the Board were themselves pleased to submit with their recommendation for sanction.

3. The ryots are deeply interested in the immediate repair of the tanks, which are the only sources of supply of water for their lands, and in seventeen cases they have actually sent in applications for permission at once to repair their tanks themselves at their own cost in the first instance. They request that the cost may be paid to them by Government after the works have been examined and approved by the Officers of the Department Public Works.

4. Their request being reasonable, I have asked the Superintending Engineer to give the emergent works to the villagers themselves where they are willing to carry them out according to his estimates. In a recent conference with the Superintending Engineer that officer expressed himself as being willing to hand over any work to the villagers who may be ready to undertake its execution; and I am therefore sanguine that these works will be satisfactorily completed. Indeed there can be little or no doubt but that in the majority of cases repairs to the earth-work of tanks, road embankments, and such works as call for no special or skilled engineering labour, will be carried out far more thoroughly and at a cheaper rate by the villagers on the spot, who are themselves most interested in the completion and stability of the work than by contractors, whose sole motive and idea is the screwing the largest possible amount of profit out of the estimate.

5. While on this subject I beg to place upon record what appears to me to be a great desideratum of the country and especially in this district.

6. In a dry district like North Arcot, where most of our tanks depend for their supply upon the periodic rains, it is our duty as well for the protection of the interests of Government as of those of the ryots to maintain the tanks in thorough repair. But our annual grants for the up-keep of irrigation works are notoriously wholly insufficient to meet the numberless applications for repairs constantly made to Revenue Officers by the ryots.

7. During the Jamabundi settlement just concluded hardly a village came before me without the ryots and village officers earnestly bringing to notice the various dilapidations of their tanks, and which they said they have been urging in vain for successive years. I know that their complaints are perfectly true. Year by year the ryots complain of the increasing defects in their tank bunds and sluices, and the settling officer is obliged to put them off with vague promises of a grant of money some day or other; but he knows that in many cases the repair of these tanks will never be made simply because other and larger works are in need of repair, and all the available money is devoted to them. Finally, the smaller tanks, which year by year have been gradually falling into decay, breach under some slightly heavier pressure than usual, and for want of the repairs that might have saved them. Works of irrigation, possibly of not very great importance when taken by themselves, but of the utmost importance to the few ryots who hold land under them, are swept away, and the estimate for their repairs cannot be sanctioned, as the cost at the prevailing high rates is so large when compared with the revenue derived from the cultivable area under them.

8. The most superficial observer who travels the country cannot help being struck by the general appearance of dilapidation and decay that is now presented by the vast majority of the irrigation works, with the safety of which the welfare of the people and the prosperity of State are so intimately connected. This is mainly to be ascribed to the fact that the annual allotments for the maintenance of irrigation works are chiefly swallowed up by the requirements of those works whose magnitude and importance are such as to make their demands imperative, and the small balances that remain when their wants have been attended to is not sufficient to keep in order even five per cent. of the minor works, and whose need of repair, however, was every whit as urgent as those of more importance.

9. As a matter of course, therefore, the latter class of works is fast going to ruin, and unless early and vigorous measures are adopted to put such tanks in thorough repair, the inevitable result will be most disastrous.

10. The great majority of these tanks are essentially "fair weather" works. They hold water after a fashion, and year by year some petty extent of cultivation is carried on by their aid; but owing to the manner in which they have been neglected, they are quite unable to stand any severe trial such as that to which they were subjected by the rainfall on the 2nd May last, and the consequence is that on such an occasion they breach one after the other, carry ruin and devastation over a large extent of country, and the Government are then embarrassed by heavy estimates and applications for special grants.

11. I desire respectfully, but very earnestly, to urge upon Government the necessity for recognising the magnitude of the disaster that has now fallen upon this district, and which threatens to be productive of heavy and continued injury to their own revenues, as also to the unfortunate ryots whose lands must remain uncultivated unless, as in the case of a district suffering from a scarcity of grain, the Government are pleased to make a large special grant-in-aid for the restoration of all the tanks that have been damaged in the late cyclone.

12. Such a course will be only politic in regard to the pecuniary interests of Government, and be a gracious act of charity and justice to the suffering ryots.

13. I am well aware that, under existing arrangements, the Budget allotments may not suffice to allow of Government making so large and liberal a grant as that for which I now apply; but special and peculiar emergencies call for special treatment. The Government, in their anxiety to benefit the mass of the people of this country, have recently passed an Act, under the provisions of which ryots everywhere are encouraged to borrow from the State monies for the repair or construction of irrigation works. I venture to submit that, when the Government are so willing as to lend funds to agriculturalists desirous of improving their own estates by borrowed money, the same policy may very wisely and advantageously be carried out on a larger scale for the restoration of those valuable irrigation works on which their own revenue chiefly depend. I would suggest the advisability of the Government contracting a loan, having for its object the immediate repair of irrigation works of every description all over the country, and especially in this district. By such an outlay there would without doubt be a large annual increase to the revenue consequent on the extension of cultivation. The tanks once thoroughly restored would not require for years to come the present heavy annual allotments for repairs, and the saving thus effected, coupled with the increased revenue, would more than cover the cost of the loan itself.

14. If the execution of the repairs were given to the villagers themselves, I am convinced there would be a vast reduction in the rates for material labour, etc., and this would again increase the advantages to be derived from the course I now advocate.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The Collector urges the necessity for an immediate grant for the repair of damage done to irrigation works during the late cyclone. The cultivation season has begun, and any delay will result in great loss of revenue. Estimates to the amount of Rupees 37,300 have already been prepared, and many more are under preparation and will be ready soon.

3. In seventeen cases ryots have applied for leave to execute the necessary repairs themselves on the condition that they shall be paid if the work is good. The Board think such undertakings should be freely encouraged.

4. Mr. Whiteside gives a sad account of the general deterioration of tanks throughout the district, and urges that a special grant might be made under the circumstances, and that even if the money is borrowed the outlay will be remunerative. This is a general subject, and the Board have nothing new to say regarding it.

TRANSFERRED to the Department Public Works.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

22nd July 1872.

No. 511. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th July 1872.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of North Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Palmanair, 19th July 1872, No. 313.

WITH reference to paragraph 1 of my letter No. 302, dated 12th instant, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Board, that since that letter was drafted, I have received from the Superintending Engineer ninety-one more emergent estimates, amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 67,748. This amount, added to those (Rupees 28,500 and 8,400) shown in my letter above referred to, would give a total of Rupees 1,04,648 as the amount up to which estimates have been up to this time received in this office. 148 emergent estimates, aggregating Rupees 92,513, have up to date been countersigned by me and returned to the Superintending Engineer, and there still remain in my office thirty-one emergent estimates, amounting to Rupees 12,130, awaiting information from the taluqs.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, 19th July 1872.

TRANSFERRED to the Department Public Works.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

29th July 1872.

No. 512. From the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 24th July 1872, No. 1,720.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have examined several of the works injured by the cyclone in the North Arcot District, and gone over nearly all the estimates with the Range Officers, most have been sanctioned by the Collector. The villagers are generally eager to commence work, and I have authorized it in many cases some time back, and have been since borne out by the Collector.

2. The total of the estimate for extraordinary damages in North Arcot amounts, so far as I am yet informed, to Rupees 1,95,352. We have also incomplete

works and debts to the amount of	Rupees	31,319
or in all	,,	2,26,671
against this we have an allotment of	,,	1,35,000
Balance required ...		91,671

3. I do not think it likely that we shall be able to expend all this money on these works, but the whole of the people are so anxious to restore their tanks, etc., that probably Rupees 50,000 in addition to our allotment will be laid out.

4. But in doing this I am depriving Chittoor, Palmanair, Chendragherry, Wallajah, Vellore, and Polur Taluqs of nearly all money, and leaving nothing for

the repair early next year of damages which are very likely to occur during the next monsoon.

5. I think it will be wise therefore to ask that arrangements may be made to supplement my allotment in North Arcot by one lakh of Rupees in all.

6. I cannot close this without remarking on the crying necessity for providing better means than now exist of discharging surplus water. I find that before I joined, early in May, estimate for Minor New Works to the amount of Rupees 52,757 had been sent to the Collector, the allotment being only Rupees 6,000.

7. I have found on my inspection that many tanks have breached at the sluices or round the weirs, and have reason to believe that those breaches are caused partly by the use made as passages of those parts of the bank, but principally are due to the style of these works. The sluices are generally long tunnels without counterfort or bond of any sort to connect them with the bank. The calingulahs, masses of masonry, so short that the water must rise to 3 or 4 feet head on their crests in any unusual rain, a height which produces great pressure at a part of the tank bank which is naturally weak.

8. If 12,000 or 15,000 Rupees per annum were granted for Minor New Works, I believe we might make many if not all our tanks secure by giving them long flush escapes, not near the old course of the stream as at present, but on the high ground at the extremity of the tank bank, where the natural soil or a broad platform of concrete would, with a low head, discharge a very considerable body of water very rapidly.

9. New face-walls to the sluices would make them much safer, and enable the villagers to work them more easily than they can now, as they have for a great part of the season to swim out to the head.

10. I cannot but think that it would be good economy on the part of Government to increase the grant under this head to enable us to put the tanks into efficient condition.

No. 513. ORDER THEREON, 30th August 1872, No. 2,073.

IRRIGATION, No. 22.

IN these letters the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, and Collector unite in calling on the Government to supplement the Agricultural Repair Allotment of the North Arcot District. The former states the immediate demands to amount to Rupees 90,000 in excess of the existing allotment of Rupees 1,35,000, of which he calculates on being able to lay out Rupees 50,000 in the current official year; but he reckons the ordinary demands of other taluqs which have not suffered from the storm of 2nd May at Rupees 50,000 more. From the Collector's statement of estimates scrutinized and passed, it does not appear that any want of funds will have been felt up to the present time; but in order to meet calls that may now be impending, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves, in anticipation of that amount being made available under the Resolution of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, No. 200—A. I., of 5th July, to increase the allotment of North Arcot District by the sum of Rupees 50,000.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 30th August 1872.

2. The general improvement of the irrigation works of the district, advocated both by the Collector and Superintending Engineer, is a matter to be taken in hand deliberately in ordinary years, rather than in a year of extraordinary pressure like the present. No doubt much future damage will be prevented by better regulation of the means of discharging surplus water; and the Government are glad to find that the Superintending Engineer is alive to the necessity of paying attention to this point, which is noticed in the last paragraph of Memorandum by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, printed with G. O., No. 2,051 of 28th August. The subject must, however, be gone into systematically, and Range Officers be made to select the works to be successively improved, not arbitrarily, but in the order which is pointed out by the nature of the country. Tanks are seldom isolated works; each, almost invariably, forms a link in a chain, and it is useless to put the lowermost links of such a chain into perfect order, while the higher ones, from which they depend, are in an unsafe condition. The revenue maps of districts will in time enable the position of each tank, for which an estimate is sent in, to be identified; but meanwhile in each Taluq, Range, Collector's or Superintending Engineer's Office, the Tank Registers should be arranged so as to show their relative position and dependence on each other.

3. The Governor in Council will be prepared to give the most favourable consideration to all applications for funds backed up by estimates of which he shall have assurance that they have been prepared with reference to such details. But it would be premature, he considers, to augment the Minor New Works Agricultural Allotment of the North Arcot District, without such assurance, in the face of the fact recorded in G. O. No. 1,671 of 11th July, that twenty-two per cent. of last year's allotment for the Presidency was suffered to lapse; the shortcoming in North Arcot District being to the extent of one-fifth of its share. The remarks of that Order were specially applicable to Colonel Moberly's management of the 2nd Division, and he should be careful that they shall not apply to the North Arcot District this year.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

MISCELLANEOUS No. REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

4

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 19th July 1872.

Read the following

No. 302.

From

W. S. Whiteside Esqre.
Ag. Collector of North Arcot.

To

J Grose Esqre.
Secretary to the,
Board of Revenue,
Madras.-

SIR,

I have the honor to submit for the information of the Board that since my application[x] for a special allotment of Funds for the immediate repair of damages caused to irrigation works in this District by the late storm emergent Estimates to the extent of Rs. 28,500 were received for the repair of breaches &c. in tank bunds. These Estimates were duly passed and returned to the Superintending Engineer in anticipation of the Government sanctioning the grant of funds already applied for and recommended by the Board.

[x] ...ted 3rd June No. 230.

Further Estimates for emergent repairs

repairs to irrigation works are being almost daily received and I have at this moment before me 40 such Estimates to the value of Rs 8,400 but they are not a quarter of what I am aware I shall shortly receive.

2. About Rupees 44,934 of Government Revenue is dependant upon the irrigation works damaged by the late storm. The cultivation season is now close at hand, in fact has commenced in some localities, and as further delay in the execution of repairs cannot fail to tell heavily upon the results of the current year: I venture earnestly to solicit early orders upon my application for a special grant. The importance of the subject, the magnitude of the interests at stake and the urgency of the occasion cannot be over-rated and they are my excuses for thus troubling the Board again to move the Government to pass early and favorable orders—

upon

upon my application and which the Board were themselves pleased to submit with their recommendation for sanction.

3. The ryots are deeply interested in the immediate repair of the tanks which are the only sources of supply of water for their lands and in 17 cases they have actually sent in applications for permission at once to repair their tanks themselves at their own cost in the first instance. They request that the cost may be paid to them by Government after the works have been examined and approved by the Officers of the Department Public Works.

4. Their request being reasonable I have asked the Superintending Engineer to give the emergent works to the Villagers themselves where they are willing to carry them out according to his Estimates. In a recent conference with the Superintending Engineer that Officer expressed himself as being willing to hand over any work to the Villagers who may be ready to

undertake

undertake its execution and I am therefore sanguine that these works will be satisfactorily completed. Indeed there can be little or no doubt but that in the majority of cases repairs to the earth-work of tanks road embankments and such works as call for no special or skilled Engineering labor will be carried out far more thoroughly and at a cheaper rate by the Villagers on the spot who are themselves most interested in the completion and stability of the work than by contractors whose sole motive and idea is the screwing the largest possible amount of profit out of the Estimate.

5. While on this subject I beg to place upon record what appears to me to be a great desideratum of the country and especially in this District.

6. In a dry District like North Arcot where most of our tanks depend for their supply upon the periodic

periodic rains it is our duty as well for the protection of the interests of Government as of those of the Ryots to maintain the tanks in thorough repair. But our annual grants for the up-keep of irrigation works are notoriously wholly insufficient to meet the numberless applications for repairs constantly made to Revenue Officers by the Ryots.

7. During the Jamabandi settlement just concluded hardly a village came before me without the Ryots and Village Officers earnestly bringing to notice the various dilapidations of their tanks and which they said they have been urging in vain for successive years. I know that their complaints are perfectly true. Year by year the ryots complain of the increasing defects in their tank-bunds and sluices and the settling Officer is obliged to put them off with vague promises of a grant of money some day or other, but he knows that in many cases the repair of these tanks will never be made simply because other

and

and larger works are in need of repair and all the available money is devoted to them. Finally the smaller tanks which year by year have been gradually falling into decay breach under some slightly heavier pressure than usual and for want of the repairs that might have saved them, works of irrigation, possibly of not very great importance when taken by themselves but of the utmost importance to the few ryots who hold land under them are swept away and the Estimate for their repair cannot be sanctioned as the cost at the prevailing high rates is so large when compared with the Revenue derived from the cultivable area under them.

8. The most superficial observer who travels the country cannot help being struck by the general appearance of dilapidation and decay that is now presented by the vast majority of the irrigation works with the safety of which the welfare of the people and the prosperity of

state

of State are so intimately connected. This is mainly to be ascribed to the fact that the annual allotments for the maintenance of irrigation works are chiefly swallowed up by the requirements of those works whose magnitude and importance are such as to make their demands imperative - and the small balances that remain when their wants have been attended to is not sufficient to keep in order even 5 per cent of the minor works and whose need of repair however was every whit as urgent as those of more importance.

9. As a matter of course therefore the latter class of works is fast going to ruin and unless early and vigorous measures are adopted to put such tanks in thorough repair the inevitable result will be most disastrous.

10. The great majority of these tanks are essentially "fair weather" works. They hold water after a fashion and year by year some petty extent of cultivation is carried on by their aid: but owing to the

manner

manner in which they have been neg-
lected they are quite unable to stand
any severe trial such as that to
which they were subjected by the
rain fall on the 2nd May last
and the consequence is that on
such an occasion they breach
one after the other, carry ruin and
devastation over a large extent
of country and the Government
are then embarrassed by heavy
estimates and applications for
special grants.

11. I desire respectfully but very
earnestly to urge upon Government
the necessity for recognising the
magnitude of the disaster that has
now fallen upon this District and
which threatens to be productive
of heavy and continued injury
to their own Revenues as also to
the unfortunate ryots whose lands
" must remain uncultivated unless,
as in the case of a District suf-
fering from a scarcity of grain, the
Government are pleased to make
a large special grant-in-aid for
the

the restoration of all the tanks that have been damaged in the late Cyclone.

12. Such a course will be only politic in regard to the pecuniary interests of Government and be a gracious act of charity and justice to the suffering ryots.

13. I am well aware that under existing arrangements the budget allotments may not suffice to allow of Government making so large and liberal a grant as that for which I now apply: but special and peculiar emergencies call for special treatment. The Government in their anxiety to benefit the mass of the people of this country have recently passed an act under the provisions of which ryots everywhere are encouraged to borrow from the State, monies for the repair or construction of irrigation works. I venture to submit that when the Government are so willing as to lend funds to Agriculturalists desirous of improving their own Estates by borrowed money the same policy

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may very wisely and advantageously be carried out on a larger scale for the restoration of those valuable irrigation works on which their own Revenue chiefly depend. I would suggest the advisability of the Government contracting a Loan having for its object the immediate repair of irrigation works of every description all over the country and especially in this District. By such an out-lay there would without doubt be a large annual increase to the Revenue consequent on the extension of cultivation. The tanks once thoroughly restored would not require for years to come the present heavy annual allotments for repairs and the saving thus effected coupled with the increased Revenue would more than cover the cost of the Loan itself.

14. If the execution of the repairs were given to the Villagers themselves I am convinced there would be a vast

reduction

reduction in the rates for material labor &c. and this would again increase the advantages to be derived from the course I now advocate.—

North Arcot
Collector's Office
Camp Polamnair
12th July 1872 } I have &c.
(Sd) W. S. Whiteside
Ag. Collector

Submitted for the orders of Government.

The Collector urges the necessity for an immediate grant for the repair of damage done to irrigation works during the late Cyclone. The cultivation season has begun and any delay will result in great loss of revenue. Estimates to the amount Rs 37,300 have already been prepared and many more are under preparation and will be ready soon.

In 17 cases ryots have applied for leave to execute the necessary repairs themselves on the condition that they shall be paid if the work is good. The Board think such undertakings should be freely encouraged.

Mr

Mr Whiteside gives a sad account of the general deterioration of tanks throughout the District, and urges that a special grant might be made under the circumstances, and that even if the money is borrowed the outlay will be remunerative. This is a general ~~subject~~ and the Board have nothing new to say regarding it.—

True Copy of Extract

J Grose
Secretary

To
The Chief Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Md. W. Locker

Cod. Sr. Thukappain?

10

P. ~~Revenue~~ Works 1872 Sept

Pro: of Govt. ~~No. 2420~~ 19th August

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
OF REVENUE.

~~No. 4126~~

Dated 19th July 1872.

Despatched 19 — " — "

~~Received 22nd " — "~~

Received 26th August "

SUBJECT.

Submitting for orders of Govt. application of Collr. of N. Arcot for funds for repair of irrigation works damaged during late storm.

No. 2073 - 30 Augt. /72

Transferred

Transferred to the Dept. P.W.

J. [illegible]

Ch. Secy.

22.7.72

No 510

~~MISCELLANEOUS No.~~ REVENUE DEPARTMENT. 8

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 24th July 1872.

Read the following

No. 313

From

W. T. Whiteside Esqre.
Acting Collector of North Arcot

To

J. Grose Esqre.
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

SIR,

With reference to para 1 of my letter No. 302 dated 12th Instant, I have the honor to report for the information of the Board that since that letter was drafted, I have received from the Superintending Engineer 91 more emergent estimates amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 67,748. This amount added to those (28,500 and 8,400) shown in my letter above referred to would give a total of Rupees 1,04,648 as the amount up to which estimates have been up to this time received in this Office 148 emergent estimates, aggregating

r - 67748

Rupees 92,518 have up to date been counter-signed by me and returned to the Superintending Engineer and there still remain in my office 31 emergent estimates amounting to Rupees 12,130 awaiting information from the Talugs.

I have &ca.

North Arcot Collector's Circuit Office Polnanair 19th July 1872 } (Signed) W. S. Whiteside
Acting Collector

Submitted to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings 19th July 1872.

(True copy & Extract)

J Grole
Secretary

To,
The Chief Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

+ Transferred to D. P. W.

P.W. Lr. 3494 Sent to Coty on the 20 July

W. G. W. Locker
Ex.
Cd. by
M. Narasima Charry

Transmitting letter [illegible]

[illegible] of North [illegible]

[illegible] a claim [illegible]

[illegible]

received [illegible]

[illegible]

No. 37

No. 511

P.W.

~~Revenue~~ 1872 Sept.

Pro. of Govt. ~~No. 2478~~ for August

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
OF REVENUE.

No. 3732

Return

5-8-72

Dated 24th July 1872

Despatched 24 — " — "

Received 29th " — "

Recd. 2nd Augt. /72.

SUBJECT.

Submitting letter from Collr. of North Arcot fur=nishing certain informa=tion in regard to estimates received from Supt. Eng=gineer for repair of works damaged by late storm.

Transferred

No. 2073 - 30 - Augt. /72

Transferred to the D. P. W.

29.7.72

[signature]

Secretary to Government.

No. 511

Desptd. to Colr. 2 Augt. /72

No. 1730. Supg Engrs Office 4th Dn.
Madras 31st July 1872.

From
Colonel F. J. Moberly R.E.
Supg Engineer 4th Division

To
Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government
P. W. Department.

Sir
I have the honor to report that I have examined several of the works injured by the Cyclone in the North Arcot District, and gone over nearly all the estimates with the Range Officers - most have been sanctioned by the Collector - The villagers are generally eager to commence work, and I have authorized it in many cases some time back, and have been since borne out by the Collector

2. The total of the estimate for extraordinary damages in North Arcot amounts so far as I am yet informed, to Rs 195352 we have also incomplete works and debts to the amounts of Rupees 31319.

or in all	226671
against this we have an allotment of	135000
Balance required	91671

3 I do not think it likely that we shall be able to expend all this money on these works, but the whole of the people are so anxious to restore their tanks &ca that probably Rupees 50000 in addition to our allotment will be laid out.

4 But in doing this I am depriving Chittoor Palmanair on Chendragherry Wallajah Vellore and Polur talugs of nearly all money and leaving nothing for the repair early next year of damages which are very likely to occur during the next monsoon.

5 I think it will be wise therefore to ask that arrangements may be made to supplement my allotment in North Arcot by one lac of Rupees in all.

6 I cannot close this without remarking on the crying necessity for providing better means than now exist of discharging surplus water.

water. — I find that before I joined, early in May, estimate for Minor New works to the Amount of Rupees 52,757 had been sent to the Collector & the allotment being only Rupees 6,000. —

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near

near the old course of the stream as at present, but on the high ground at the extremity of the tank bank, where the natural soil or a broad platform of concrete would, with a low head, discharge a very considerable body of water very rapidly.

9 New face walls to the sluices would make them much safer, and enable the villagers to work them more easily than they can now; as they have for a great part of the season to swim out to the head.

10 I cannot but think that it would be good economy on the part of Government to increase the Grant under this head to enable us to put the tanks into efficient condition.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed.t Servant

[signature]
Colonel R.E.
Sup.g Engineer 4.th Division

P. W. 1872 Depart
Pro: of Govt. for August
No. 3609.

From
The Supg. Engineer
4 D.

To
The Secy: to Govt.
P. W. Dept.

Dated 24th } July 1872
Recd: 26th }

No. 1720.

Reporting on several of the works injured by the Cyclone in the North West District —

No. 2073 - 20 - Augt. /72

No. 512

Despd to Ordy 26 July /72

No 2073. P.W.D.

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
under date the 30th Augt./72
Read the following:–

Pro. of the Bd of Rev:– (D.E. Genl. d/ 19 July/72)
Do –– do– (–– d/ 24 ––)
From the Supg Engr– 4th Dn– (No. 1720 d/ ––)

In these letters the Superintending Engineer 4th Division and Collector write in calling on the Government to supplement the Agricultural Repair allotment of the North Arcot District. The former states the immediate demands to amount to Rs 90,000 in excess of the existing allotment of Rs 1,35,000,

of which he calculates on being able to lay out Rs 50,000 in the current official year; but he reckons the ordinary demands of other Talooks which have not suffered from the storm of 2nd May, at Rs 50,000 more. From the Col-lector's statement of estimates scrutinized and passed, it does not appear that any want of funds will have been felt up to the present time; but in order to meet calls that may now be impending, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves

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in anticipation of that amount being made available under the Resolution of the Govt. of India in the Public Works Department No. 200 A.I. of 5th July, to increase the allotment of North Arcot District by the sum of Rs 50,000.

The general improvement of the Irrigation works of the District, advocated both by the Collector and Supdg: Engineer is a matter to be taken in hand deliberately in ordinary years, rather than in a year of extraordinary

pressure like the present.
No doubt much future
damage will be pre-
-vented by better regu-
-lation of the means
of discharging surplus
water; and the Govt.
are glad to find that
the Supt. Engineer is
alive to the necessity of
paying attention to this
point, which is noticed
in the last para of
memo: by the Chief
Engineer for Irrigation
printed with G. O. No. 2051
of 28th August. The sub-
-ject must however
be gone into systematically,
and Range Officers be
made

In circulation
No 4096

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made to select the works to be successively im-
-proved, not arbi-
-trarily, but in the order which is pointed out by the nature of the country - Tanks are seldom isolated works; each, almost invariably, forms a link in a chain, and it is useless to put the lowermost links of such a chain into perfect order, while the higher ones, from which they depend, are in an unsafe condition - The Reve-
-nue Maps of Districts will in time enable

the position of each Tank for which an estimate is sent in to be identified; but meanwhile in each Talook, Range, Col-lector's or Supg: Engineer's office, the Tank Registers should be arranged so as to show their re-lative position and dependence on each other.

The Governor in Council will be prepared to give the most favorable con-sideration to all applications for funds backed up by estimates

of which he shall have
assurance that they
have been prepared
with reference to such
details - But it would
be premature, he con-
-siders to augment
the Minor New Works
Agricultural allot-
-ment of the North
Arcot District, with-
-out such assurance,
in the face of the
fact recorded in
G. O. No. 1671 of 11th July,
that 22 per cent of
last year's allotment
for the Presidency was
suffered to lapse;

the shortcoming in North Arcot District being to the extent of one fifth of its share. The remarks of that Order were specially applicable to Colonel Moberly's management of the 2nd Division, and he should be careful that they shall not apply to the North Arcot District this year.

G.N.W.

60/60

To the Supdg. Engineer 4th Divn. [with Copy] of G.O. No. 1764 of 1872
" Board of Revenue } — do — do
" Revenue Deptt. } — do — do
" Ch. Engineer for Irrign. }
" Controller of A.G. — do — do

Desp. 6/9/72 + Desp. 7/9/72

Nos: 4126, 5732 + 3609

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr. 4th Division

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 30th August 1872, No. 2073 √

Nos: 510 @ 513

Agricultural repairs allotment of the North Arcot Dt. Passing orders on applications for supplementing the agricultural repairs allotment of the N. Arcot Dt.